(e) if so, by when, the waiting list would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, as on 30.6.2004, a total number of 18045 STD/ISD/PCOs and 343 Local PCOs are running in various districts of Assam.

(b) According to the present policy, PCOs are allotted to all the eligible applicants on first come first served basis. The number of booths to be installed in the current year depends on the availability of applicants.

(c) No separate amount is earmarked for this purpose. The expenditure on PCO lines from part of the project for direct exchange lines.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Budget allocation for communication facilities to Assam

930. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the budgetary allocation for Assam for the achievement of communication facilities during the last three years has been very low in comparison to other states;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The allocation has been commensurate with the targets, as indicated below:—

2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
Percentage of Assam's Target to the Total Target	Percentage of Assam's Budget Allocation to Total Allocation	Percentage of Assam's Target to the Total Target	Percentage of Assam's Budget Allocation to Total Allocation	Percentage of Assam's Target to the Total Target	Percentage of Assam's Budget Allocation to Total Allocation
1.46	1.72	1.34	1.32	1.37	1.77

The State-wise details of targets assigned in budget are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise targets and budget estimate allocation from the year 2001-02 to 2003-04

(Budget Allocation figures are in Crores of Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of Circles	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		Budget allocated	DELs Target	Budget allocated	DELs Target	Budget allocated	DELs Target
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	10000	23.98	4000	11.67	3500	11.27
2.	Andhra Pradesh	530000	1141.33	399000	873.70	449000	626.68
3.	Assam	100000	261.18	75000	135.81	83000	172.98
4.	Bihar	200000	1043.88	215800	404.22	255000	432.44
5.	Chhattisgarh	82000	0.00	39500	112.81	58000	116.25
6.	Gujarat	650000	1436.11	502700	993.20	424000	694.38
7.	Haryana	245500	383.98	187000	313.28	223000	375.13
8.	Himachal Pradesh	90000	249.16	74000	110.43	75000	135.05
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	80000	132.75	49000	112.97	79500	126.39
10.	Jharkhand	500000	0.00	93200	242.37	98000	153.88
11.	Karnataka	663000	1150.00	430000	604.14	385000	669.35
12.	Kerala	155000	991.20	664000	787.22	800000	1186.27
13.	Madhya Pradesh	40000	903.40	167500	392.79	176000	372.73
14.	Maharashtra	750000	1880.00	593000	1192.94	596000	993.54
15.	North East	53500	136.16	37800	130.23	84000	154.18
16.	Orissa	135000	427.16	147000	232.14	137000	190.85
17.	Punjab	460000	690.32	387000	587.67	389000	539.56
18.	Rajasthan	300000	631.84	249000	463.89	297000	487.43
19.	Tamil Nadu	596000	1201.01	454000	906.79	445000	691.75
20.	Uttaranchal	325000	206.43	57000	124.64	73000	530.05
21.	Uttar Pradesh East	400000	1563.23	485500	907.81	516000	457.75
22.	West Bengal	465000	971.96	279000	637.60	417000	666.28
	TOTAL:	6830000	15226.92	5590000	10278.32	6061000	9786.19

NOTE: 1. Budget allocated for Bihar includes Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh includes Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh (East) includes Uttaranchal up to 31-3-2002.

2. Allotments made to Project Circles, maintenance circles, telecom factories, CGM Telecom Stores etc. are in addition.

3. The targets for Direct Exchange Lines are fixed keeping in view the existing and expected demand.